

REMARKS

This amendment is in response to the Office Action of February 5, 2007 in which claims 1-21 were rejected.

Regarding the objection to the disclosure, pages 2 and 13 have been amended as suggested by the Examiner. Withdrawal of the objection is requested.

Regarding the rejection of claims 8 and 9, the change in the dependency has been carried out as suggested by the Examiner. Withdrawal of the indefiniteness rejection of claims 8 and 9 is requested.

Claims 1-3, 10-13 and 17-21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. Section 102(e) as being anticipated by CHUA (US 2004/0183833 A1).

Regarding claim 1, although CHUA discloses in paragraph [0025] "a list of other candidate symbols or a list of candidate words" these symbols are displayed in a list display area 26 of Fig. 1 of CHUA which list display area 26 is not disclosed as displaying a *subset of virtual keys* as claimed.

To the contrary, CHUA shows a virtual keyboard are a14 with virtual keys 22 in a fixed way without any hint or suggestion that any subset of virtual keys should be displayed in the "list display area" 26 of the message area 16.

Rather, the list would contain the letters "Y," "G" and "T" as a list and not as a display of a subset of virtual keys. See page 3 of CHUA in the last sentence of paragraph [0037].

Therefore the CHUA reference does not identically disclose that which is claimed in the independent claims 1, 17 and 21 and withdrawal of the 35 U.S.C. Section 102(e) rejection based on CHUA is requested.

Regarding the dependent claims 2-3, 10-13, and 18-20, these are also not anticipated by CHUA for at least the same reasons as given above.

Withdrawal of the novelty rejection of claims 1-3, 10-13 and 17-21 is requested.

Claim 4 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. Section 103(a) as being unpatentably obvious over CHUA in view of LEWIS et al (US 6,7826,306).

Claim 4 depends from claim 1 and is at least patentable for the same reasons as given above in connection with applicant overcoming the novelty rejection of claim 1. Withdrawal of the obviousness rejection of claim 4 is requested.

Claims 5-6, 8-9 and 14-16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. Section 103(a) as being unpatentably obvious over CHUA in view of LYON (US 6,480,621).

Claims 5-6, 8-9 and 14-16 depend directly or indirectly from claim 1 which has been shown above not to provide the display of a subset of virtual keys and therefore the 35 U.S.C. Section 102(e) basis for the obviousness rejection has been shown to be inapplicable for these claims as well. Withdrawal of the obviousness rejection of claims 5-6, 8-9 and 14-16 is requested.

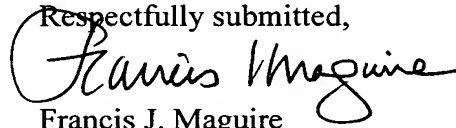
Claim 7 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. Section 103(a) as being unpatentably obvious over CHUA in view of LYON as applied to claim 5 and further in view of LEWIS et al.

Claim 7 depends from claim 5 which in turn depends from claim 1. Claim 1 has been shown not to be anticipated by CHUA because CHUA does not show the

identification of display of a subset of virtual keys for display to the user and therefore the obviousness rejection of claim 7 is inapplicable as well.

Withdrawal of the obviousness rejection of claim 7 is requested.

The objections and rejections of the Office Action of February 5, 2007, having been obviated by amendment or shown to be inapplicable, withdrawal thereof is requested and passage of claims 1-21 to issue is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,  
  
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